

## Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-05 L-01 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIE-00 INRE-00

NSCE-00 SSO-00 SY-04 OPR-01 AID-05 /056 W

----- 012184

O R 062135Z NOV 74

FM AMEBASSY BUENOS AIRES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8735

INFO AMEMBASSY ASUNCION

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO

AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

DIA DOD WASHDC

USCINCSO

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUENOS AIRES 8159

USCINCSO FOR POLAD

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, ASEC, CASC, AR

SUBJECT: GOA DECLARES STATE OF SIEGE

REF: BA 7979

1. MINISTER OF INTERIOR ROCAMORA ANNOUNCED THIS AFTERNOON THAT AS OF TODAY STATE OF SIEGE IS IN EFFECT THROUGHOUT ARGENTINA. EXECUTIVE BRANCH DECISION, ROCAMORA SUGGESTED, WAS TRIGGERED BY FACT THAT TERRORISTS HAD NOW GONE TO SUCH EXTREMES AS THREATENING SCHOOL CHILDREN. (NUMBER OF SCHOOLS AND PARENTS HAVE RECEIVED CALLS THREATENING CHILDREN DURING PAST FEW DAYS--SEE SEPTEL. INTERESTINGLY, SENATOR PAZ HAD TOLD AMBASSADOR HILL OCT 30 THAT STATE OF SIEGE WOULD BE IMPOSED IF THERE WERE ANY THREATS TO FAMILIES--SEE REFTEL.)

2. CONSTITUTIONALLY, PRESIDENT CAN DECLARE STATE OF SIEGE

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ONLY WHEN CONGRESS IS IN RECESS--WHICH IT IS. CONGRESS

MUST THEN APPROVE MEASURE WHEN IT RECONVENES. THERE  
NO DOUBT THAT IT WILL DO SO, HOWEVER.

3. IF PRESENT STATE OF SIEGE FOLLOWS PATTERN OF THAT WHICH  
WAS IN FORCE UNTIL MARCH OF 1973, PRINCIPAL EFFECTS WILL  
BE TO SUSPEND HABEAS CORPUS, THUS MAKING IT POSSIBLE  
FOR SECURITY FORCES TO HOLD SUSPECTS AS LONG AS THEY DEEM  
NECESSARY WITHOUT REFERENCE TO COURTS. IT WILL ALSO  
PROHIBIT ANY GATHERINGS OR MEETINGS OF MORE THAN FOUR OR  
FIVE PEOPLE AND MAKE IT POSSIBLE FOR SECURITY FORCES TO  
MOVE DETAINEES FROM ONE PART OF COUNTRY TO ANOTHER. SINCE  
POLICE HAVE RESORTED TO ALL THESE MEASURES EVEN WITHOUT STATE  
OF SIEGE, MEASURE NOT LIKELY TO BASICALLY ALTER THE EXISTING  
SITUATION. NOR IS IT LIKELY TO PRODUCE MUCH IN THE WAY OF  
CONCRETE GAINS IN DEFEATING TERRORISTS. MAJOR IMPACT IS  
LIKELY TO BE PSYCHOLOGICAL. INDEED, THAT IS PROBABLY GOA'S  
PURPOSE IN DECLARING IT--THAT IS, TO GIVE IMPRESSION OF  
MOVEMENT AND OF TAKING DECISIVE MEASURES IN WAKE OF VILLAR  
ASSASSINATION AND WHAT APPEARS TO BE NEW TERRORIST TACTIC OF  
THREATENING CHILDREN.

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** POLITICAL SITUATION, CIVIL DISORDERS, TERRORISTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 06 NOV 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** smithrj  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974BUENOS08159  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D740319-0302  
**From:** BUENOS AIRES  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Legacy Key:** link1974/newtext/t19741167/aaaacfey.tel  
**Line Count:** 82  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION ARA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** BA 7979  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** smithrj  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 05 SEP 2002  
**Review Event:**  
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**Review Media Identifier:**  
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**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** GOA DECLARES STATE OF SIEGE  
**TAGS:** PINS, ASEC, CASC, AR  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005